

IN THE CLAIMS

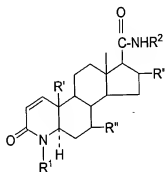
The remaining Claims in the application are shown below:

Claim 28. (currently amended) A method of treating androgenic alopecia ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of transdermally administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of a 5alpha-reductase 2 inhibitor.

Claim 29. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, wherein androgenic alopecia is male pattern baldness.

Claim 30. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, wherein the 5alpha-reductase 2 inhibitor is transdermally administered by a transdermal skin patch.

Claim 31. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, wherein the 5alpha-reductase 2 inhibitor has the structural formula I:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen, methyl or ethyl;

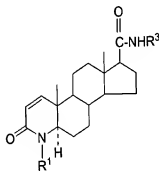
R² is a hydrocarbon radical selected from straight and branched chain alkyl of from 1-12 carbons or monocyclic aryl optionally containing 1 or more lower alkyl substituents of from 1-2 carbon atoms and/or 1 or more halogen substituents selected from Cl, F and Br;

R³ is hydrogen or methyl;

R⁴ is hydrogen or β-methyl; and

R⁵ is hydrogen, α-methyl or β-methyl.

Claim 32. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, wherein the 5 α -reductase 2 inhibitor has the structural formula II:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

R¹ is hydrogen or methyl; and

R³ is branched chain alkyl of from 4 to 8 carbons.

Claim 33. (currently amended) A method of treating androgenic alopecia ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of transdermally administering to a person in need of such treatment a therapeutically effective amount of 17 β -(N-tert-butylcarbonyl)-4-aza-5 α -androst-1-ene-3-one.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 33 wherein androgen alopecia is male pattern baldness.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The method according to Claim 33, wherein the 17 β -(N-tert-butylcarbonyl)-4-aza-5 α -androst-1-ene-3-one inhibitor is transdermally administered by a transdermal skin patch.

Claim 36. (currently amended) A transdermal skin patch ~~comprising~~ consisting essentially of a therapeutically effective amount of a 5 α -reductase 2 inhibitor as the active ingredient.

Claim 37. (previously presented) The transdermal skin patch according to Claim 36 wherein the 5 α -reductase 2 inhibitor is 17 β -(N-tert-butylcarbonyl)-4-aza-5 α -androst-1-ene-3-one.